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PTO/SB/30 (09-03)

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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**Request
for
Continued Examination (RCE)
Transmittal**Address to:
Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	10/659,409
Filing Date	September 10, 2003
First Named Inventor	Steven P. Hergott, et al.
Art Unit	3643
Examiner Name	David J. Parsley
Attorney Docket Number	P06668US0

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

a. ☒ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Rely Brief previously filed on _____ii. ☐ Other _____b. ☒ Enclosedi. ☒ Amendment/Replyiii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s)iv. ☐ Other PTO/SB/08A (2 pages)**2. Miscellaneous**a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)b. ☐ Other _____**3. Fees**

The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to

a. ☒ Deposit Account No. 50-2098i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)iii. ☒ Other Any additional fees due or credit any overpaymentb. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 385.00 enclosedc. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)**WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.****SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print/Type)	TIMOTHY J. ZARLEY	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	45.253
Signature		Date	6/8/04

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print/Type)	TIMOTHY J. ZARLEY	Date	6/8/04
Signature			

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

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PATENT

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPL. NO. : 10/659,409 CONFIRMATION NO.: 4641
APPLICANTS : Steven P. HERGOTT, David S. HAMBLIN,
and Michael J. HARDY
FILED : September 10, 2003
TITLE : METHOD AND MEANS FOR STUFFING ANIMAL CASINGS
WITH SAUSAGE EMULSION
TC/A.U. : 3643
EXAMINER : David J. PARSLEY
DOCKET NO. : P06668US0
CUSTOMER NO. : 34082

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**


In response to the final Office Action of May 19, 2004, Applicant requests continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. In addition to this request, Applicant submits the following amendment.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this document and the documents referred to as enclosed therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 8th day of June 2004.



Timothy J. Zarley